

2. The tracts of country belonging to the following Mehwási Chiefs are excluded from the operation of the Indian Registration Act III of 1877 :—

The Párvi of Káthi.

„ Nál.

„ Singpur.

The Walvi of Gaohálii.

The Wasáva of Chikhli.

The Párvi of Nawalpur.

(G. I., H. D., No. 683, dated 27th March 1878; *vide* G. R. No. 1752, dated 5th April 1878.)

II.—ANNUAL REPORT.

1. The Administration Report of the Registration Department should be submitted in full every third year, statistical returns and brief commentaries in the shape of notes being submitted in the intermediate years. The notes should give a clear, though brief, indication of the supervising or controlling officer's opinion as to the significance of the statistics. The latest dates of submission of the Annual Report to the Local Government and the Government of India are 15th August and 1st October respectively. (G. I., H. D., Nos. 28-1579-95, dated 15th July 1887, and 11-790-801, dated 24th April 1891; *vide* G. Rs., G. D., Nos. 2426, dated 17th August 1887, and 3346, dated 22nd September 1891.)

2. The annual reports on the operations (a) in the Registration Department proper and (b) in the Village Registration Department should be combined in one communication, but the two subjects should be dealt with separately. (G. M. No. 3043, dated 25th April 1889.)

3. Local Governments are at liberty to order the introduction of additional columns in the statistical forms* prescribed by the Government of India for the annual reports of the Registration Department or the adoption of extra forms for any additional information that, owing to local reasons, may be considered necessary or desirable. But it should be borne in mind that whenever the adoption of any new column or of any new sub-division of an old column is resolved upon, it should be distinguished from the prescribed columns in the manner explained in the Home Department Resolution† No. 796-800, dated 12th May 1873. (G. I., H. D., Nos. 5442, dated 13th December 1871, and 64-2667, dated 30th October 1874; *vide* G. Rs. Nos. 6409, dated 21st December 1871, and 5953, dated 12th November 1874.)

*These forms were prescribed in the Resolution of the Government of India No. 5442, dated 13th December 1871; *vide* G. R. No. 6409, dated 21st idem; *vide* also G. Rs. Nos. 1037 dated 19th February 1875, 6956 dated 21st November 1881, 6767 dated 5th October 1887 and 2345 dated 1st April 1890.

†Extract from G. I., H. D., No. 796-800, dated 12th May 1873 (*vide* G. R., J. D., 3023 dated 31st idem) :—

Local Governments can use their discretion as to entering in the prescribed returns such additional columns as seem to be really needed for adequately exhibiting or explaining the information which the returns are intended to convey. So far as these purposes require, the original columns can also be subdivided, provided that the original columns themselves are

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4. In the annual administration report the names as well as the number of offices examined by the Inspector General of Registration and Stamps should be furnished.

In the case of the chief heads of revenue and expenditure and of the more important classes of documents, the average figures for the five preceding years should be shown. (G. R. No. 6056, dated 16th November 1880.)

5. The Registrars and the Inspector General of Registration should endeavour to explain the variations in the registrations of different classes of documents separately instead of assigning general causes for increases or decreases in the total numbers of documents registered. (G. R. No. 158, dated 9th January 1883.)

6. The Inspector General of Registration and Stamps should obtain and embody in his annual report

retained. It is probable that the necessity for any changes of this kind will greatly be reduced if a column of remarks be used in *all* statements. If the Local Administrations, however, find it essential to alter the tabular forms in which their statistics are sent up to the Government of India (which should never be done in the way of expansion or mere addition, but only in the way of elucidation), then the following method must be observed. All *new items* and all *new columns* should be given in different coloured ink, so as to be at once distinguishable from those *prescribed*, and all fresh columns should be distinguished by a subordinate number so as not to alter the numbers given by the Government of India to the columns in the prescribed statements; thus if it be intended to add two columns between columns 3 and 4 of any Statement, the heading of these new columns and the numbering, as well as the figures in them, should be (if the rest of the statement is in black) given in *red* ink, and the numbers should be 3a and 3b. In giving totals and averages, if the figures shown in the new columns will affect these, then these should be *twice* given; one total or average showing what the result would be according to the *prescribed statement*, the other (which should be in ink of a different colour) those as resulting from the additional figures.

If a column be sub-divided, the sub-divisions should be shown thus: Let column three, for example, be that of the prescribed statement, and suppose it is desired to divide it into three sub-heads, then the addition will be given thus:—

3	DETAILS OF COLUMN 3.		
	3a	3b	3c
Number of persons released pending trial.	On bail.	On their own security.	Without security.

By these means it will be possible to show any *additional* subordinate matter which the Local Governments find really needed without disturbing the uniformity of the prescribed statements. The fundamental arrangement of these statements should be left wholly untouched. Statistics should not be thrown into groups which are arranged in the prescribed statements alphabetically, or *vice versa*, nor should the order of the columns be transposed. But any criticisms or proposed improvements may be submitted separately for consideration.

on the working of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, and the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1879, accurate information regarding the causes of the principal variations in the number of registrations. (G. R. No. 8956, dated 4th December 1893.)

III.—OBJECTS, PRINCIPLES AND POLICY OF THE DEPARTMENT.

1. It is necessary that the Registration Department should be self-supporting, but it is not intended that registration should be treated as a source of revenue, and the cheapening of transactions connected with it must have a considerable influence in popularizing and extending it to the public advantage. (G. R. No. 9474, dated 25th November 1885.)

2. The Governor General in Council trusts that no efforts will be spared to endeavour to make the registration of optionally registrable deeds more general than it is. It is incumbent on the Government to give all reasonable facilities for registration by establishing offices in sufficient numbers and appointing special officers for all places where there is no other public servant available with leisure to attend to the work, and where the receipts are likely to be sufficient to cover the cost. There is ample scope for increasing the number of offices in places where they do not at present meet the requirements of the people. The department has not been established for the purpose of realising a profit to Government, but in order to secure a better record of title in land and better evidence of monetary transactions among the people; and the Governor General in Council trusts that Local Governments and Administrations will not lose sight of the need for devoting the surplus in their hands (after meeting pensions and other indirect charges) to providing facilities for registration when experience shows that they are required. (G. I., H. D., No. 6 Pub.—259-271, dated 17th February 1891; *vide* G. R. No. 1724, dated 6th March 1891.)

3. As a general rule the Government of India is not disposed to regard with favor proposals to enhance registration fees especially when the enhancement affects documents of small values. It seems to His Excellency the Governor General in Council to be good policy to cheapen fees chargeable on such documents with the view of popularizing the system of registration and relieving the pressure which it must necessarily entail on the poorer classes. (G. I., H. D., No. 1000, dated 6th May 1887; *vide* G. R. No. 3376, dated 30th idem.)

4. In attempting to ascertain the value of estates and tenures transferred by registered deeds of sale, registering officers in Bengal were instructed to make enquiries of parties presenting deeds in which no revenue or rental was mentioned, in view to supplying the requisite details. In several instances such interference was resented, parties declining to furnish the information as not compulsory under the law. The Government of India consider that